subject to augmentation in availability of LPG and bottling capacity, through its expanding distributorship network.

(c) Efforts are being made to maximise LPG production in the refineries and also augment supplies through imports to the extent feasible. The situation is being closely monitored by the oil industry with a view to ensuring regular LPG supplies to the consumers.

678. [*Transferred to the 2nd March, 1988.*]

Increase in Dealers' Commission due to Hike in Price

679. SHRI DHARAM CHANDER PRASHANT: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) what is the increase in the price of petrol in the last three months;

(b) whether the dealers' commission has been increased because of the hike in the prices;

(c) what is the commission paid to petrol dealers and what is the percentage of commission to the cost of the product; and

(d) what is the percentage of evaporation loss at petrol pumps and whether this loss is borne by the company or the dealer?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI RAFIQUE ALAM): (a) The ! ie ceiling selling price of petrol wa; increased by Rs. 1000|- per KL w.e.f. 9th January, 1988. This was the only increase during the last three months.

(b) Yes, Sir. The dealers' commission is automatically revised with changes in price as per the existing formula.

(c) A statement is enclosed. (*See* below).

(d) Based on industry's recommendation on the evaporation loss actually suffered by the dealers compensation ranging from 0.50 per cent to 0.75 per cent of the sales volume is included in the dealers' commission.

Statement

The dealers' commission on petrol is paid on slab basis. The rates of commission and percentage of commission to the the cost of petrol for various slabs are as follows:—

Slab	Sales per annum (in KL)	Commission Rs./KL	% of commission of the ex-storage price
I	0—360	164	2.13
II	361—600	124	1.61
III	601—1080	109	1.42
IV	Over 1080	87	1.13

Royalty to Maharashtra Government

680. SHRI PRAMOD MAHAJAN: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government are proposing to pay royalty to Maharashtra Government for the gas and oil explored from the Bombay high; and

(b) if so, what are the details thereof?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI RAFIQUE ALAM): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

Producers of Vitamin-C and Vitamin-A

681. SHRI BHUBANESWAR KALITA: Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that there are two producers of each of Vitamin C and Vitamin A in bulk;

(b) whether it is also a fact that the turn over of each runs in many crores;